

Remarks

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101

In paragraphs 3 and 4, the Office rejects claims 15-24 as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. In paragraph 5, the Office rejects claims 15-24 under 35 U.S.C. §101 for the recitation of a use.

To overcome these rejections, Applicants have amended the claims to conform them with U.S. claim format.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

In paragraphs 6 and 7, the Office rejects claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,773,644 to Chen et al.

In particular, the Office alleges that Example F in column 32 of Chen et al. anticipates the compound of claim 26 when m=0, Ar=phenyl, X¹=NH₂.

Applicants have canceled claim 26, and formulated new compound claim 43 to exclude the compound disclosed in Example F, column 32 of Chen et al.

In paragraphs 6 and 7, the Office rejects claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,022,969 to Rice et al.

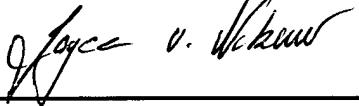
In particular, the Office alleges that the 4-guanidinobenzylamine bis-trifluoroacetate disclosed in lines 8-10 of column 20 of Rice anticipates the compound of claim 26 when m=0 and X¹=NH₂.

Applicants have canceled claim 26, and formulated new compound claim 43 to exclude 4-guanidinobenzylamine bis-trifluoroacetate salts when Ar=phenyl, X¹=NH₂ and m=0. Applicants respectfully submit that what Rice et al. describe in column 20 as "trifluoroacetates" are salts of 4-guanidinobenzylamine.

Applicants have also formulated the new compound claim 43 to exclude 4-guanidino-N-tert-butoxycarbonylbenzylamine hydrochloride, which is an intermediate of the synthesis of the above discussed 4-guanidinobenzylamine bis-trifluoroacetate, when Ar=phenyl, X¹=NR³R⁴ with R⁴=H and R³= -COOR⁷ with R⁷ = tertbutyl and m=0.

Applicants respectfully submit that these limitations should overcome the rejection over Rice et al.

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